

REMARKS

The following remarks are responsive to the points raised by the Examiner in the non-final Office Action mailed June 10, 2004, in the above-identified application. Claims 1-11 are pending. No new matter has been introduced. Entry and consideration are respectfully requested.

Response to Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent 6,007,224 to Jiao et al. (Jiao). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Independent Claim 1 recites a headlight for a motor vehicle having a optical reflector with a continuous reflective surface that creates a light beam of:

“at least two distinct zones of maximum light intensities”, wherein

“said distinct zones have different angular offsets with at least one distinct zone located on the outer edge of said reflective surface”, and

independent Claim 8 recites a pair of headlights each having an optical reflector with a continuous reflective surface adapted to produce respective light beams having:

a first and second zones of “maximum light intensity”, wherein

“the first and second zones have different angular offsets with at least one of said zones located on the outer edge of said reflective surface.”

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-identified headlight and/or pair of headlights, and in particular, the zones of maximum light intensities with different angular offsets are not taught or suggested by the applied prior art reference of Jiao.

The Examiner urges, however, that the automotive headlamp reflector 20 of Jiao, as shown in Figure 3, includes:

“a continuous reflective surface that creates in said beam at least two distinct zones (see figure 3) of maximum light intensities, wherein said optical reflector has a central axis passing through the light source in the beam direction, and is asymmetrical along a plane on the central axis so said distinct zones have different angular offsets with at least one distinct zone located on the outer edge of the reflective surface (see figure 3, where Jiao et al shows the maximum intensities are on two of the outer edges of the reflective surface (40.9 Lumen on the outer edges in the Y-direction of the reflector between -45mm to -5mm and 45mm to 15mm))”.

In contrast, Jiao, in Column 5, Lines 10-31, discloses in regard to Figure 3, that:

“FIG.3 illustrates that the intensity of the light contained in the images also decreases for the areas farther from the light source. Thus, FIG. 3 illustrates the lumen content for the images produced by individual facets in a reflector.

FIGS. 2 and 3 also indicate the boundaries of the zones A, B, and C into which the reflector is divided during the design process. These zones define the facets 6 to be used for the high intensity part of the light pattern, the lower intensity part of the light pattern, and for smoothing the pattern. In the preferred embodiment, the zones are defined in accordance with the following criteria:

Zone	A	B	C
Portion of total light	40%	35%	25%
Filament size (°)	>6	3-6	<3

The facets in zone A are used to supply the light for the broader and lower intensity parts of the light pattern, the facets of zone C are used to supply the light for the smaller and higher intensity part of the light pattern, and the facts in zone B are used to supply light to smooth the light pattern.”

No where in the above words of Jiao is it seen where Jiao teaches or suggests a headlight and/or pair of headlights having zones of maximum light intensities with different angular offsets. As such, Claims 1 and 8 are distinguished over the applied prior art reference of Jiao. Dependent

Claims 2-7 and 9-11 are likewise distinguished over the applied prior art reference of Jiao for at least the same reasons as their respective base Claims 1 and 8. Accordingly, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1-11 are in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

AUTHORIZATIONS

The Commissioner is also hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this filing, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1948-4706.

Respectfully submitted,
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